

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 2-3, 8-10, 14, 16, 18, 20, 24-26, 30-34, 40-44, 49, 50 and 62-64 have been cancelled herein and are replaced by new claims 65-69. Accordingly, claims 1 and 65-69 are pending in this application.

Claims 1-3, 8-10, 14, 16, 18, 20, 24-26, 30-34, 40-44, 49, 50 and 62-64 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Downing et al. (US Patent 5,963,647) in view Corder et al. (US Patent 5,936,221) in further view of Risafi et al. (US Patent 6,473,500).

Claim 1, as amended herein, is identical to the proposed claim 1 as set out in the proposed amendment submitted to the Examiner via facsimile on October 29, 2009. That proposed amendment was submitted after a telephone interview with the Examiner conducted on October 20, 2009. On November 17, 2009, a second telephone interview was conducted with the Examiner to address the proposed claim, and the Examiner indicated during that interview that the proposed claim overcame the prior art and would be allowed upon entry in an official amendment. In the Interview Summary, dated November 23, 2009, the Examiner indicated that "Applicant submitted a proposed amendment to claim 1. The Examiner agreed that such an amendment would be sufficient to overcome the prior art and that claim 1 appears to be in condition for allowance."

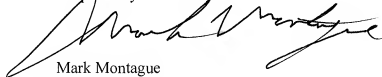
The undersigned attorney of record thanks the Examiner for his time during the two interviews that were conducted and sincerely appreciates the Examiner's indication that amended claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is requested that the rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn.

In order to expedite the successful prosecution of this application, all of the other rejected claims have been cancelled.

New claims 65-69 are presented. New claims 65 and 66 depend from claim 1. Support for new claim 65 is set forth in cancelled claim 8. Support for new claim 66 is set forth in cancelled claim 30. New independent claim 67 is a system claim that corresponds to amended independent method claim 1. New claims 68 and 69 depend from claim 67 and correspond to new claims 65 and 66, respectively. It is submitted that no new matter has been added. The allowance of new claims 65-69 is solicited.

In view of the foregoing, the allowance of this application is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner deem that the application is not in condition for allowance, for any reason, the undersigned attorney of record respectfully requests that the Examiner telephone the attorney at 212-790-9252 to discuss what further amendments are needed in order to place the application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Montague', is written over the typed name and registration number.

Mark Montague
Reg. No. 36,612

COWAN, LIEBOWITZ & LATMAN, P.C.
1133 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036-6799
T (212) 790-9200